# AROUND THE WHIST TABLE.

## THE SUN'S PERCEPTION PROBLEM AND IIS ANALYSERS.

The Passing of the Long-Suit Came-The American Whist Lengue Trophy-Diffi-enit Lends-Club News and Notes. The perception problem published in THE Sun Nov. 29 is an excellent example of the accuracy with which cards may sometimes be

placed, even after only two or three tricks have been played. It being granted in advance that the players are following "book," Y is enabled to place every card of any importance. A great many solutions were received, but comparatively few were correct, some of the finer points being overlooked. The best analysis of the situation was given by C. A. Moody of Mount Vernon, Others were "Chester," J. B. Elwell, Brooklyn; C. H. F., Toronto; G. H. Fish, New York; E. K. Hall, Scranton; M. C. Isbel, Ansonia; A. M. Knickerbocker, Syracuse; J. F. Mc-Carthy, Providence; L. N. Mathews, Corning; G. H. Sargeaut, Leeds, Mass.; A. Story, and Edwin S. Lewis.

The situation is this: The heart king is turned by Z, and his partner, Y, holds these cards: 1. -A, 2; C,-8, 5, 4; D,-K, J, 4; S,-Q, J, 0, 8, 5. The first three tricks are: C.-A. 4, 2, 6; C.-K, Q. 7; D.-Q. K. S. 3. Y's lead for the next trick will now depend on his ability to place the cards correctly. His interences are as follows:

A shows that he held five clubs originally, but as he does not continue them he cannot have the jack. B has no more, so the jack must be in Z's hand, and A holds 10, 9, 3. A has not more than three trumps, and these must be weak, otherwise he would go on with the clubs and force his partner. Neither B nor Z having signalled, they must have four trumps each. A cannot have a certain card of reentry in spades, or he would have gone on with the clubs to establish them. Moody and Elwell were the only solvers that noted this point, which is well taken. If the diamond queen was doubly guarded, it would not be led, the two-card spade suit being better; so A must the two-card spade suit being octor; so A must have Q 2 only in diamonds, and three worthless spades. H probably holds 10, 9 of diamonds while Z is marked with the A. 7, 0, 5. By a simple process of exclusion, Y is able to place only one spade in Z's hand, four in H's, and three in A's. The problem for Y is to bring in the diamonds, If he can, for the spades are hopeless if Z has has but one.

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Solvers are divided on the question of the best lead for Y, the majority favoring the trump ace, followed by the dek...e, which will insure three rounds, the club jack or the diamond suit then forcing the last trump out pof B's hand, if he is left with the best. Others think it better to play the diamond jack first, because Z cannot place that card, and if Z should be able to draw all the trumps, and should then lead ace of diamonds, the jack would block the suit; or if it is given up on the ace, it will make the ten good in B's hand. Others argue that the chances are against Z's being able to draw all the trumps, and that being left with the last, after forcing B, he can trump bimself in again.

Here is the actual play of the hand, which shows that B was keenly alive to the dangers of his position and took advantage of his knowledge of the location of the cards very well. A-B are partners against Y Z. Z dealt and turned the heart king. The underlined card wins the trick and the card under it is the next one led:

TRICK.		Y	В	z
1	& A	44	<b>\$</b> 2	46
2	& K	4.5	4 Q	4.7
3	Qo	KO	80	3 ◊
4	♥3	O A	Ø 5	♥8
8	Ø 4	V 2	0.8	O Q
6	Ø 6	48	010	♡ K
7	43	5 4	6 4	& J
8	20	40	90	AO
9	2 0	JO	100	5 0
10	3 4	Q ø	A A	10 4
11	4 4	8 4	QI	07
13	49	9 4	K &	6 ◊
13	<b>\$10</b>	10	7 .	7 ◊

A-B win five tricks.

Trick 7.—B refuses the force, hoping A has the diamond jack and that the ten will win the third round.

Trick 8.—It would require some courage for Z to lead the small diamond while the best trump, the established clubs, and probably the spade suit are all against him. The difficulty foreseen by some solvers is now apparent, for Z cannot place the jack of diamonds, and has no means of knowing that A cannot get in with it and continue the clubs.

of knowing that A cannot get in what it and continue the clubs.

Trick 10.—Y now faces the inevitable, and B reaps the benefit of having passed the club jack. Had Y led the diamond at trick 4, Z could have been sure of a force in diamonds, holding back the club jack, and A-B would have made four tricks only instead of five. The same result is brought about if B trumps the club jack at trick 7, as A-B will then make four only.

only.

Had A followed Drayson's principle of going right along with the clubs, and forcing his partner, even with weak trumps, A-B would still have made four tricks.

This hand was put into a tray for a well-known short-sulter to open, and A-B got six tricks out of it as follows:

TRICK.	A	Y	В	z	
1	QO	ΚO	80	3 ◊	
2	2 0	8 4	K a	10 4	
3	<b>4</b> 3	44	& Q	4.6	
4	4 K	45	4 2	47	
S	& A	<b>4</b> 8	6 4	& J	
6	4 4	9 4	A .	♡8	
7	03	V 2	♥ 5	♡ K	
8	04	OA	♥9	Ø 7	ı
9	20	JO	100	A O	l,
10	06	40	♥10	00	l s
11	3 4	5.0	90	7 0	3
13	49	JA	OJ	50	1
13	410	Qø	7 4	6 0	8

A-B win six tricks.
In the opening lead A reasons that if he makes what he can in clubs he will then have to force his partner or to open a weak suit. If he partner gets in, A will be made third hand, with absolutely nothing to protect limself with: therefore, he thinks it better to give his partner a chance first, as the clubs should make any time.

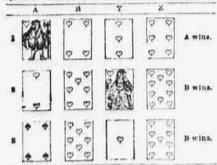
Trick 2. Thanks to Y's informatory leads, l Trick 2. Thanks to Y's informatory leads, B can mark him with Q. J. 9 of spades, and Z with no more. A has shown that he has nothing in diamonds, so clubs are his suit, or he has nothing at all in plain suits. The supporting club follows these inforences as a matter of course. How simple A's short-suit opening makes it for B!

Trick 6, A has to choose between letting one edversary trump and the other discard, and sacrificing his partner's spade are to force Z, who will then have to do the worrying about what to play next.

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Trick 9. H's false card in diamonds led Z to believe that his best play was to win this trick, to prevent A and B from making their trumes asparately. The play probably won a trick, for if Z had left the lead with Y, and he had led snother diamond, A would have made his small rump, and on the club B would have got rid of his spade; civing A-B seven tricks. If Y snifts to snades: Z's play does not matter, as A must make his small trump; but B does not get a discard.

Quite a number of persons have asked The Sun for more of these perception problems, and curiously enough the majority of such requests comes from those who did not solve this one. Here is one which is a problem in Judgment, more than in mere placing of the cards: Z dealt and turned the heart 10. B held these cards: H., A, Q, 5, 3; C, J, 5, 2; D, J, 5; S, K. Q, 9, 3. The first three tricks were as follows:



How much does B know of the situation, and what is his best lead? Names of those sending best solutions will be published Dec. 27.

THE AMERICAN GAME. Quite a number of whist editors agree with The Sun in claiming that the long-suit game, as laid down by "Cavendish" and Fole, he longer exists in this country. B. I. Baker, captain of the Union League team, which holds the inter-club championship of Erosalvo, sums up the matter in the Briedligh Euple by classifying the prevailing modes of play. He save, in substance, that there is an out-stadent short-stance, that there is an out-stadent short-

THE SUR. brought into prominence by the Manhattan and New York clubs, and now played by almost all the first-class teams in the country; and there is the regular wooden arrangement known as long suits and American leads, which is confined to the classroom and used as a sort of guiding string for the novilates. He thinks is about time the longs and the shorts ceased calling each other black, since it is evident to any impartial observer that they are both pretty well covered with each other's soot, whether long or short. He thinks that they should compromise on some other name, new to both, and suggests the "American Game," since it is the outgrowth of American discussion, analysis, and experiment.

promise on some other name, new to both, and suggests the "American Game," since it is the outgrowth of American Game," since it is the outgrowth of American discussion, analysis, and experiment.

This proposition seems to have met with considerable favor. The game now played in this conntry is certainly distinctly national. Although the common-sense variety of strategy has long been the standard game in England, the game there played is not suited to duplicate methods, as the chief point there is still, and probably always will be, playing to the core, duplicate being unknown. The Sow has always maintained that the American whist player was progressive, and that he would eventually get away from all such wooden arrangements as number-showing leads and the invariable opening of the longest suit. A great mass of ingredients, known as private conventions, have lately been introduced into whist; but they will all boil down and evaporate in time, and leave its with a good, common-sense, national game. Why not christen it while it is young, and call it what it will be called in due time, "the American Game?"

It is all nonsense for any one to claim that the theories of Pole and "Cavendian" are still the standard of play. At the Brooklyn compass whist match on Monday lasts shurt-suiter was congratulating himself on having made a killing by leading a singleton diamond in a certain hand which had turned out exceptionally well. On comparing scores with five or six other players it was found that they had made just as many tricks. This led to further inquiry, and it was found that they had made just as many tricks. This led to further inquiry, and it was found that they had made just as many tricks. This led to further inquiry, and it was found that they had made just as many tricks. This led to further inquiry, and it was found that they had made just as many tricks. This led to further inquiry, and it was found that they had made just as many tricks. The set to conventionalities, but they are impreving steadily and are

THE A. W. L. TROPHY.

Much was expected from the match between Hamilton and the Capital Bicycle Club, as the latter carry the short-suit theory to extremes. Those who read Milton Work's article last Saturday could not fall to see that it was a hedge against possible defeat, and as a matter of fact the Hamilton's were very nervous about this particular match, and had a good hoorah, with poetry, when it was safely over. There are few persons who will agree with Harry Low when he says that the Washington team was as strong as when it won three straight matches against the Columbia Athletic, He is modest enough to insist that without either himself or Wooten on the team, it was still strong enough to face Hamilton; but with at least one player who was quite out of touch with the others, had not practised with them, and is a long-suit player into the bargain, few will regard the match as representing the Capital Bicycle Club at its best. At first it was decided not to play, as Luw could not possibly go; but he insisted that the Hamiltons should not be possible win by a forfeited match, which would not count anything for them, for unless the match is actually played it does not reckon toward the permanent possession of the cup. The game forfeited by New them, for unless the match is actually played it does not recken toward the permanent possession of the cup. The game forfeited by New Jersey to New York counted nothing for the holders of the trophy.

The teams were: For Hamilton, Remak, Work, Ballard, and Mogridge. For Washington, Carr. Barrick, Fogg, and Quackenbush. The final score was 25 to 14 in favor of Hamilton. The result of the Hamilton-Wilmington match will be found on our sporting page as usual to-morrow morning.

usual to-morrow morning. DIFFICULT LEADS. When one no longer depends on Dr. Pole's arithmetical rule for ascertaining the best auit to lead from in any given hand it sometimes becomes a nice question to select as auit. In the ladies' match in Washington four tricks were lest on one hand by an error in judgment in the opening lead. The heart deuce was turned and the leader held: H., A, 10, 6, 3; C, A, Q, J, 10, 5, 4; D, K; S, 0, 4.

The Philadelphia player risked the trump lead, and was fortunate enough to find her partner

The Philadeiphia player risked the trump lead, and was fortunate enough to find her partner with the K. Q. 9. of trumps, and the king of clubs, making eleven tricks. The Washington player also wished to avoid the club suit opening, and did not feel justified in taking such a shot as to lead trumps with an unestablished suit, and no safe card of reentry; but unfortunately, instead of leading the spaces, she opened with the diamond king, and although she and her partner had later opportunities to get out the trumps, they did not do to, and made only seven tricks.

A hand was played in Brooklyn on Monday

TRICK.	WASH.	PHILA.	WASH.	PHILA.
	A	Y	В	z
1	10 ◊	JO	Q¢	Ko
2	20	60	3 ◊	90
3	46	0.8	80	AO
4	V B	03	V 4	O K
<b>5</b>	♥10	Ol	Ø A	V 2
6	<b>410</b>	4 Q	46	3 4
7	4 4	6 4	7.4	K A
8	5 4	4 4	4.7	70
9	2 4	A 5	43	5 ◊
10	4 2	49	48	40
11	10 4	V 5	A .	8 4
12	OO	4 A	& J	9 4
13	Q A	07	4 K	Jø

A-B win two tricks.

This hand is certainly not up to the Washington's usual standard. At trick 3 A should trump with the queen or discard a club. Passing wound probably have induced Z to lead trumps, as Y's discard would show weakness in spaates. B would then have led spade ace, forcing Y, who would have led trumps, as in the actual play. This would leave A with major tenace in trumps and minor tenace in spades, and the lead of the club 10 would have tied the score, instead of losing four tricks on the hand. At trick 6 B should have known that if his partner had anything it was in spades. The two leads of spades, ace first, would have forced Z into the lead with the king. On his lead of a diamond A would trump and lead the club through Y. The would have saved three tricks, even after A's play at trick 3. A's refusal to trump the diamonds, allowing Y three discards, is very bad whist. Two tricks might have been saved, even after ait the previous bad plays.

have been saved, even after all the previous bad plays.

We leave to the student the interesting variation that would have secured eightricks for Y-Z in spite of the best play of A-B, if Y had overtrumped with the seven and then led his single-ton spade.

On the overplay Hamilton led spades, which II returned and A very properly refused to trump Z's diamonds. If this is a fair sample of the play, we can well believe the statement that Washington could have won twenty more tricks than it did.

CLUB NOTES.

It has always been a matter of surprise to those visiting this city that there is practically no duplicate whist in the metropolis, and any one wanting to play that game had to go to Brooklyn. The Whist Club of New York have at last taken steps to remedy this, and on Wednesday last they began a series of compass whist nights for club members, on the same plan as those which have been so successful in throoklyn. Individual scores will be kept, and those who can keep on the plus side will be posted on the bulletin board. The many who contend that it is impossible to get city men to plus whist for fun might change their minds if they saw the crowding and pushing that takes place. CLUB NOTES. whist for fun might change their minds if they saw the crowding and pushing that takes piece every Monday night in Brooklyn, when over a hundred solid business men clow concanother to get a look at the scores when they are posted up. With the Cherry Diamond duplicate on Fridays, the New York and Kniekerbocker on other nights, there should no longer be any necessity for a New Yorker who objects to playing for money to go to Brooklyn for a game.

The high stores to date in the Brooklyn compass games are as follows:

п	Dass Manes are as tomoss:
ı	Player. Gimes. Tricks. Average.
J	C. A. Henriques
1	C. R. Ketley 45 8 5.6
П	E. H. Weems
ı	A. E. Taylor 45 10 4.5
1	At the end of the last season the player who
1	won first prize. A. Josephson, had an average of
1	three and one-tenth tricks plus on games played.
1	Whist is improving over there.
١	The second challenge match for the Andrews
1	Trophics was played in Philadelphia on
1	Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Newbold's team,
1	the holders, won by the decisive margin of 23
1	tricks in 36 hands. The challengers were
1	Mrs. Johnson's team of Philadelphia, who
d	finished ninth in the tournament, their
8	score being 31 matches won, and 3 tricks plus
ы	The state of the s

is not likely one will be caught until warm weather sets in again, and the big fish begin to run nearer shore. Yet all summer large traps were set along the coast and were inspected regularly, in the hope that a man-carer might have chased some of the smaller sea inhabitants into the trap. Several sharks were

caught, but they were all of the dog-fish variety. Some are in the aquarium now. A shark trap, when made for the purpose, is device not only well calculated to confine the fish within its enclosure, but also to fool him into the belief that he is just as free as ever he was; for a shark can develop on occasion a propensity for tearing around and chewing up things, which, if he thought himself confined, would be rather hard on the net. Therefore, the trap is constructed so that once in, the 6sh s unable to get out, yet with enough turnings and twistings in its maze-like construction to enable the shark to go through a large space of water before the complete circle is made. A shark trap is really a species of fyke net adaptahark trap is really a species of fyke net adapted to a special need. Of course it can be made in various shapes, but the most effective one is the four-sided fyke. There is a central box or chamber from which long lines of netting stretch away toward the four points of the compass, so as to guide, the fish toward the funnel-shaped openings. A fyke net is in fact a succession of funnels set me inside of another.

It is a peculiarity of most fishes that they dislike to turn at a very acute angle. They will follow closely a wall of netting until they come to the opening at the funnel, when they will continue on past the hole and remain in captivity rather then turn sharply around. Thus they swim around and around the inside of the net in a vain effort to find freedom which is directly under their noses. The same peculiarity lures the fish into the net from the outside. Like the roads that lead to Rome, all net obstructions for the fish lead to captivity. Yet not a single large shark has been caught this year in the traps set along the coast. It was thought that one surely would enter the blg tran off the eastern end of Long Island, and Dr. Bean had it regularly inspected and was all ready to inaugurate the opening of the aquarium with the eastern end of Long Island, and Dr. Bean had it regularly inspected and was all ready to inaugurate the opening of the aquarium with the exhibition of a man-cater. However, if success does not reward his efforts by early spring, he will employ electricity for the canture.

The electric lure is used by a number of fish trappers. It consists of an incandescent lamp confined within a water-tight box, which is suspended from a buoy in the centre of the net. Its results are most prolific as far as the capture of all kinds of marine animals is concerned. The current is obtained either from the shore. It is a device which has been capable so far of only temporary installation, as the straining of the buoys have disarranged netting would be great, it is a question whether the proper per ed to a special need. Of course it can be made in various shapes, but the most effective one

the rount of the composition of the composition of the from the shore. It is a device which has been capable so far of only temporary installation. A hand was played in Brooklyn on Monday night at the compass whist match, in which some players got five tricks, and some eleven, the majority getting six or seven. The heart four was turned, and the leader held H., K. Q. 10; C. G. 4. 3; D. T. 4. 2; S. A. J. 9. 8. No one seemed to know what to open. Some feil back on Polsand led the spades, which netted them my to seven tricks. Others did not like to open that suit, on account of the potential tenace; neither did they like to guess between the two weak suits, and so they led the trumps. Others, including all the short-suiters, opened the diamonds, and they got from nine to eleven tricks, according to the defence they met with.

One of the hands in the Hamilton-Washington match presented a problem in the opening lead. A small heart was turned, and the leader held; H., Q. 10, 8, 6; C., 10, 2; D., 10, 2; S., Q. 10, 5, 4; 2. Hamilton opened the small spade; but the Washington player guessed between the two on the deal. With such hands it is always safest to do what you think the other fellow will do and, above everything, avoid guessing. When liter is absolutely no reason for selecting on esuit in preference to another, lead neither of them.

This is the hand on which the Washingtons lost four tricks. Z dealt and turned the heart deuce.

WASH. FRILA. WASH. FRILA.

markable specimens of sea anemones now in the tanks have come being fent in care of the pursers of steamers. Of course, there was enough dammened sea weed to keen the croatures alive, althrois clemanances they were compelled to encounter is remarkable. Animal life of this kind is generally scraued from the bottom with a dredge. Dredges are of all shapes, but they generally embody the principal life of two iron laws and a net. The laws scratch the bottom, and the disengaged debris naturally flows into the net. Some dredges, as, for instance, those used during the Chailenge deep sea investigation, have bunches of rayed rope or yarn stached to the end. They have another as bottom, but it is used more to old up the disengaged flow, have another as bottom, but it is used more to old up the disengaged mater than to loosen it from the bottom. The net most used by the aquarium officials is the large surface tow net. It is a success of disengaged flyke net, a series of nets within nets. Each functional series of nets within het. The mouth can be closed and opened a surface of versus. There is another net which is used to capture fish at intermediate depths. The mouth can be closed and opened as in the net of the next series of the fish, it is rowed over the side of versus. There is another net which is used to capture fish at intermediate depths. The mouth can be closed and opened as in the net of the next series of the ser

CATCHING FISH ALIVE.

SOME OF THE DEVICES BY WHICH AN AQUARIUM IS STUCKED.

The Fattle Efforts of This City's Aquarium Officials to Capture a Man-Eating Shark—Countiess Nets and Their Advantum is stucked in the Habits of This City's Aquarium for the Habits of Fish—Electricity, Too. The opening of the new aquarium in old Capture and the standard off. The Chinese of the Habits of Fish—Electricity, Too. The opening of the new aquarium in old Capture of the ment and an article of the habits of the same of the world. This is the brishness of collecting living spectmens of fish from the depths of the sea. The officials of the aquarium have experienced great difficulty in obtaining several varieties of fish. There is no stated collecting department attached to the institution, which therefore has to depend on the contributions of fish ermen and naturalists, although orders are sent to men engaged in collecting marine animals and vegetable growths in various countries. The apparatus used by these men and the manner in which the future inhabitants of the aquarium are caught are somewhat beyond the usual.

Sometimes, despite the art and vigilance of the fish the part of the same of the same and the manner in which the future inhabitants of the aquarium are caught are somewhat beyond the usual.

Sometimes, despite the art and vigilance of the fish the part of the same in the fish trappers, certain kinds of fish elude every effort to capture/them. Dr. Tarleton H. Bean, who is curator, in charge of the aquarium, says that the prize most desired during the loads of the had been contended to the same and naturality. It is now so late in the season that it is not likely one will be caught until warm weather sets in again, and the big fish begin to run neares shore. Yet all summer large traps

## ANOTHER SELL BY BROUGHAM. The Abduction of H-a" as Attempted at

the Chambers Street Theatre. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: Brougham's joke, "This House to Be Sold," brings to my mind the incidents of a night spent at the old theatre in Chambers street, a few years before the civil war, in which the gental John and his old friend and partner, Burton, were the principal parties engaged. As well as my memory serves me, at the time of which I write, the newspapers were filled with exciting matter concerning the so-called abduction in New Orleans of a negro named Rhea. What it was all about I cannot now recall, nor do I suppose it is important to the matter in hand.

At this time, too, Burton had in his theatre a very popular actor, now dead, I believe, by the name of Rea-Frank Rea-and the similarity of the names inspired Brougham to concoct a little skitto jolly the public and at the same time to take advantage of the publicity which the daily press was giving to the hame. So the piece which Brougham threw together was entitled. The Abduction of Rea," and the only plot the thing had was that the well-known actor was to be abducted from the theatre one night by some of the other managers, but was to be rescued by some means or other; but as the piece never came to an end the audience was left in the dark and the blot was never recealed. Horace Greeley, I remember, was represented in his oid white coat and unpolished boots, and so were James Gordon Bennett and other well-known persons. Burton and Brougham played the leading characters, and the rest of the company were scattered through the piece.

Well, the curtain went up, but the farce hadn't got fairly started when It was seen that there was something wrong. It began to drag; the characters came and went without any apparent purpose, mumbling a few words, and all at once an unusual noise could be heard behind the scenes, and the curtain was lowered, and Brougham and Burton both made their appearance before the footlights. Now, it was as good as a play itself to see these two gentlemen at any time when they were called before the curtain. Brougham, with his sparking face beaming with four and good bumor, and the stad old Burton acting as a foil, with a face as unmovable as a tombstone; but on this occasion the audience looked for something extra, and they were not disappointed. The the names inspired Brougham to concoct a little skit to folly the public and at the same time to

as a combosone; out on this occasion the audience looked for something extra, and they were not disappointed. The unfortunate collapse of the play was turned into a means of enjoyment. Burton blamed Brougham for the flaceo, and was called "no author," and Brougham got back at Burton as being "no actor." And so they had it for fifteen or twenty minutes bantering each other, while the audience roared again. The scene finally closed by both clasping hands, asking pardon of the public, and promising it should never, no, nover, happen again.

The place, it seemed, had been hurriedly thrown together, without sufficient rehearsal, relying upon the good nature of the audience and the audacity of the actors to carry it through to a finish.

property. They were quick to realize the value of the horse, and parties of young men went far to the south, sometimes as far as Mexico, where they stole large herds from the Spanlards.

When the Hudson's Bay Company first met the Blackfeet there were about eight thousand lodges (tepees) of them, or 40,000 people. Since then small-pox, war, and starvation have reduced their numbers, until at the present time the Blackfeet nation comprises only 8,000 persons all told. Of these all but 2,000 are in Canada, cooped up on small reservations, and scarcely any further advanced in civilization than they were years ago. But this is not their fault; they have the same physical and mental capacity as the Montana Blackfeet. The Dominion Government, however, seems to think that its duty consists solely of fulfilling treaty obligations, which are merely a few pounds of flour and beef issued weekly, and an annuity of \$5 a year to each person.

No more bloodthirsty people ever travelled the prairies than the Blackfeet were. As soon as overland travel to California began they kept large war parties continually in the vicinity of the emigrant trail to harass the unwary travellers. Men, women, and children were relentlessly butchered whenever an opportunity occurred, and the booty and horses they secured

were quickly taken nothward to their homes. Returning from such a raid early in the '60s, a

INDIANS WHO IMPROVE.

ADVANCE OF THE BLACKFEET ALONG THE WHITE MAN'S ROAD, But Created as Piece. Nomade People. The Base of Fat Cattle-The Indian Agent in the Work of Civilization. BlackFeet Research Tillers are the dian Agent in the Work of Civilization. BlackFeet Research Triders are the dian Agent in the Work of Civilization. BlackFeet Research Triders are the thusiness had brought him to the far West.

"Why," replied the somewhat embarrassed official. "The there does not not civilize the lands, see dried apples growing on the cottonwood trees."

"Hith!" exclaimed the frontiersman. "Come out here to administer the laws; to -to civilize the Indians, and all that, you know."

"Hith!" exclaimed the frontiersman. "Come out here to administer the laws; to -to civilize the Indians, short Wal, Governor. I'll tell you right now that when you civilize these here Indians, hey? Wal, Governor. I'll tell you right now that when you civilize these here Indians, short way.

This cytoline of the old plainsman, that it impossible to civilize the Indians, is shared by a large number of people, many of them sincerely friendly toward their red brothers. I will admit that it seems impossible to do anything with or for some tribes, as, for instance, the Apaches. But there are others who would in time undoubtedly become good citizens had they the proper encouragement. There are still other airready far advanced upon the white man's are and ways. Perhaps the further and the state of the complex to the property of the many tribes they found in a short it is ordered to be a subject to the property of the complex to the property of the com

was now a single ranch. The low, mud-roofed cabin was crudely built, the ploughed and fenced ground of small extent, but it was encouraging, and improvement was steady.

In 1800 800 helfers were issued to the Blackfect as an experiment. A few of the people lost no time in eating theirs; others neglected or sold them; but the greater number herded their few head with constant care, fed them during the winter storms, and in the spring, when the caif crop came, there was great rejoicing. An Indian would come into the agent's office and proudly announce that his cows had had so many calves. Then the agent would compliment him on his industry and care of his stock during the winter, and then, turning to some one who had eaten his, tell him to see how foolish he had been; that in, a few years this man would be rich; that his children would lack for nothing, and so on. Finding that on the whole the Indians had done well with the cattle, a large number were bought and issued to them the succeeding year, and all in all, up to date, they have received 8,000 head. These, with their increase, now number 28,000, not to mention the large number of beef steers that the Indians have soid. This season they slipped five train loads of prime steers to Chicago, for which they received \$10,000; they furnished the agency with \$10,000 worth of beef, and still many of the people have from two to wenty four-year-old steers on hand, each one of them worth from \$40 to \$60. It is most gratifying to the friends of the Blackfeet to see the manner in which they expend the large sums they receive for their beef. They hire carpenters to build them neat and comfortable houses; they buy landsome sets of furniture, good clothes, durable and expensive buckboards, wagons and carriaces, and live well, as prosucrous ranchers should. None of the money goes for whiskey, or cheap and gaudy finery. What a change in less than ten years! From the kin lodge to the frame house; from indifferent idleness to busy thrift; from the wild warrior and hunter to the

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## WINTER WEATHER, INDEED

PIONEER RECALLS HOW TWO MILD DECEMBERS ENDED.

lilinote's Hominy Winter of 1830, When the Snow Hid the Tops of Trees-The Weather That Followed Young Ben Cox's Wish for a Budden Freeze-A Blast Direct from the North Pole. "I have always noticed," said an octogenarian

resident of this city, "that when early December is mild and fair we're sure to have old Boreas howling about our ears, sharp and sudden, toward the latter part of the month, But I never knew him to come down and snow his teeth quite so terribly at the far end of a mild December as he used to on the Illinois prairies in the pioneer days. I was an Illinois pioneer. My folks settled in a piece of timber in McLean county known as Keg Grove. The grove got its name from the circumstance of its having been traded to a white man by its Indian owners for a keg of whiskey. The city of Bloomington occupies the site of Keg Grove now, We settled there in 1829. There were only 40,000 people in the whole State of Illinois then. Neighbors were few and far between about Keg Grove.
"The fall and early winter of 1830 were very

dry and mild. Lete in December, and with very little warning, anow began falling. It didn's fail, either. It tumbled. It came down in regular ready-made snowbanks, and continued without a moment's let-up for two days and nights. You may have some idea of how deep the snow fell when I tell you that when it went away in the spring the stumps of trees that had been cut for firewood, as the chappers stood on the snow during the winter, were seven feet high, that being as low down as the choppers could get at the trees. In going to a neighbor's I drove over the tops of their orchard trees and did not know it. It was a fortunate thing that the corn crop had been good that year, for many families were so blockaded by the spow that they could not get out of their houses. They would have starved to death, but they lived on corn, which they pounded into coarse meal or hominy, and that was so generally the case that the winter was ever afterward known to the ploneers as the Hominy Winter.

"Deer, wolves, and wild turkeys were more plentiful than domestic animals and fowls in McLean county then. Deer grew so bold from hunger during that deep snow that when they heard men chopping downs trees they would come up and eat the branches as the trees fell. Hundreds of deer were caught in this way, and the wolves killed hundreds more. One settler named Cowen caught nineteen deer, penned them up, and fattened them on corn. Wild turkeys hovered about the cabins, and I fed scores of them out of the window of our house. We had a drove of twentyfive hogs covered by the deep snow, and they remained beneath it six weeks, in a space not more than thirty feet across. When we found them there were only twelve of the drove left, and they were as fat as fat could be. They had

them there were only tweive of the drove left, and they were as fat as fat ould be. They had feasted on the other thirteen. So many deer were crowded into a piece of timber known as Buckle's Grove that they killed every tree in the grove by girdling to get the bark to eat. Cattle died by the score during the six weeks that snow lay on the ground, because no one could get to them to dig them out and care for them.

"There was heavy frost every month in the year after that deep snow. Corn couldn't ripen, and there wasn't enough gathered for seed to plant the next season. There wasn't a bushel of seed corn to be had nearer than Ohlo in 1832, it cost \$3 a bushel. John Duffy came in that year with a few bushels of smail, yellow corn from Pennsylvania. That was planted. It matured early, and some people out there raise Duffy corn yet.

"But in December, 1836, the prairie pioneers got some weather that made them quit dating things from the winter of the deep snow. The month had been warm and moist. Everything was slush and slop and mud. Young Ben Cox's father had been to Chicago with a drove of hogs, and he brought Ben a pair of skates. There wasn't another pair in all that part of the State. But there was no ice, and young Ben got desperate because he couldn't use his new skates. One day he was so mad that he yelled out:

"'I wish to the Lord it'd get so cold that